



Common Core State Standards: A commitment to student success

Common Core State Standards describe the knowledge and skills in English language arts and mathematics that students will need when they graduate, whatever their choice of college or career.

The standards are based on the best national and international standards, giving our students a competitive advantage in the global economy.

Standards in common with over 40 states

Over 40 states have adopted these standards, developed by educators nationwide through a process led by the Council of Chief State School Officers and the National Governors Association.

Washington educators and taxpayers benefit from our ability to pool resources and expertise with other states to implement the standards. Parents can be assured their students will not lose ground if they move from one state to another.

Close alignment with Washington's vision and standards

The vision of American students fully prepared for their future is consistent with our state's vision: *Every Washington public school student will graduate from high school globally competitive for work and postsecondary education and prepared for life in the 21st century.*

In content, the standards are a close match to our state's current standards, but strengthen those standards by targeting the skills and knowledge that are most critical for students to know—a reflection of standards in other countries that focus on depth, not breadth.

Teachers in all content areas, not just English Language Arts and mathematics, will teach the practices found in the Common Core State Standards.

Partnerships are key to implementation

OSPI is partnering with school districts, associations, and advocacy groups to develop strategies that serve educators and students.

In the past, we have not had the resources or momentum to build a statewide system of instructional support for systematic implementation of our standards. The opportunity for collaboration with other states will help us realize our vision for students.

A four-year timeline for implementing standards and new assessments

By the school year 2014-15, all Washington teachers will be responsible for teaching the new standards.

Washington is a member of the SMARTER Balanced Assessment Consortium, one of two multi-state consortiums developing new assessments aligned with the Common Core State Standards. These assessments will be used statewide in 2014-15.



Learning more:

**[http://www.k12.wa.us/
Corestandards/default.aspx](http://www.k12.wa.us/Corestandards/default.aspx)**